arrivals, open market prices, stocks of foodgrains in Central Pool, market sentiments, cooperation by State Government and extent of private participation. The shortfall in procurement in RMS 2007-08 is being made up through imports of wheat which will enable distribution of allocated wheat through the public distribution system and also ensure maintenance of wheat stocks as per the buffer norms as on 1st April, 2008.

(c) The Government has announced a Minimum Support Price of Rs. 1000 per quintal of wheat for RMS 2008-09 to encourage farmers to grow more wheat in the next crop year. Moreover, to increase production of wheat, rice and coarse cereals, Centrally Sponsored Integrated Cereals Development Programme (ICDP) is in operation from October, 2000. The Government has also initiated two schemes for increasing foodgrains production and improving the agricultural growth in the country. These are (i) National Food Security Mission (NFSM) and (ii) Rashtriya Krishi Vikash Yojana (RKVY).

Buffer stock

52. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had adequate buffer stocks to meet the requirements of people:

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) what steps Government are taking to supply additional stocks in case of natural calamities; and

(e) what is the policy of Government in times of natural calamities in providing food to the shelterless and homeless poor persons in the country alongwith the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) The stock position of Foodgrains in Central Pool *vis-a-vis* buffer norms during the last three years is given as Statement-I (*See* below). The buffer norms are maintained for the Central Pool for the country as a whole and not State-wise. The stocks of wheat were less from 01.07.2005 to 01.10.2006 and of rice on 01.10.2005. This was due to less procurement.

(d) and (e) Additional allocation of foodgrains are made over and above normal Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) quota for relief in cases of natural calamities *viz.* floods, earthquake, drought, cyclones, etc. on the recommendations of the Ministry of Home Affairs, the nodal Ministry for disaster management. Details of foodgrains allocated during last three years as a part of relief measures given as Statement-II

Statement-I

Stock position of Rice and Wheat vis-a-vis buffer norms during the last three years

(in lakh tons)

As on	Wheat		Rice		Total	
	Actual stock	Buffer norms	Actual stock	Buffer norms	Actual stock	Buffer norms
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.1.2004	126.87	84.00	117.27	84.00	244.14	168.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.4.2004	69.31	40.00	130.69	118.00	200.00	158.00
1.7.2004	191.52	143.00	107.63	100.00	299.15	243.00
1.10.2004	142.23	116.00	60.92	65.00	203.15	181.00
1.1.2005	89.31	84.00	127.63	84.00	216.94	168.00
1.4.2005	40.66	40.00	133.41	122.00	174.07	162.00
1.7.2005	144.54	171.00	100.71	98.00	245.25	269.00
1.10.2005	102.90	110.00	48.49	52.00	151.39	162.00
1.1.2006	61.88	82.00	126.41	118.00	188.29	200.00
1.4.2006	20.09	40.00	136.75	122.00	156.84	162.00
1.7.2006	82.07	171.00	111.43	98.00	193.50	269.00
1.10.2006	64.12	110.00	59.70	52.00	123.82	162.00

Statement-II

Details of foodgrains allocated during last three years as a part of relief measures (other than special component of sgry)

(In Tons)

Year	Name of the State	Purpose	Rice	Wheat	Coarse Grains
2004-05	Karnataka	Drought	15841	—	—
	Bihar	Flood	50000	50000	—
2005-06	Gujarat	Flood	910	—	—
	Maharashtra	Flood	10000	10000	—
2006-07	Gujarat	Flood	4000	2000	500
	Maharashtra	Flood	2500	—	5000
	Andhra Pradesh	Flood	5000	—	—
	Karnataka	Flood	2500	2500	—
	Rajasthan	Flood	—	2000	—
	Madhya Pradesh	Flood	5000	2000	—
	Mizoram	Bamboo Flowering	30000	—	—

Procurement of foodgrains during Kharif Season

53. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any request from the Chief Minister of West Bengal for placement of adequate fund for procurement of foodgrains during Kharif marketing season; and